

Attorney Docket #: E6026-484
App. Serial No.: 10/825,518

Amendments to the Claims:

The claims in this listing will replace all prior claims in the application.

Claims 1-16 (canceled).

17. (currently amended) A pistol with firing pin locking mechanism comprising:

a housing defining a longitudinal axis and a chamber to hold a cartridge;

a firing pin disposed in the housing and longitudinally movable in a forward direction to contact the cartridge;

a firing pin blocking member movable into and out of engagement with the firing pin, the firing pin blocked from forward movement when engaged by the blocking member;

a stopping member selectively movable along the longitudinal axis from an inactivated first axial position to a second activated axial position in which the stopping member engages and prevents the blocking member from being disengaged from the firing pin; and

a first manually movable selector switch rotatably mounted in the housing and connected to the stopping member, and controlling movement of the stopping member the selector switch movable in a rotational direction to control the position of the stopping member between the first and second axial positions.

18. (canceled).

19. (canceled).

20. (currently amended) The pistol of claim 17 ~~19~~, wherein the switch further comprises a tenon pin on which the stopping member is pivotally mounted.

21. (original) The pistol of claim 17, wherein the switch is a thumb-lever.

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22. (currently amended) The pistol of claim 17 ~~19~~, further comprising a second selector switch rotatably mounted in the housing and mechanically coupled to the first switch such that turning one of the switches concomitantly turns the other switch in the same rotational direction, the stopping member being movable in position by turning either the first switch or second switch.

23. (currently amended) A pistol with firing pin locking mechanism comprising:

a housing defining a longitudinal axis and a chamber to hold a cartridge;

a firing pin disposed in the housing and movable in a forward longitudinal direction to strike the cartridge;

a firing pin blocking member movable into and out of engagement with the firing pin, the firing pin blocked from forward movement when engaged by the blocking member to prevent the firing pin from striking the cartridge;

a stopping member that is selectively movable along the longitudinal axis from an inactivated first axial position to a second activated axial position in which the stopping member prevents the blocking member from being disengaged from the firing pin;

a rotationally movable selector switch connected to the stopping member and controlling movement of the stopping member between the first and second axial positions by rotating the switch; and

a rotationally movable locking member that engages and locks the selector switch in at least one position in which the stopping member simultaneously is in the second activated position.

24. (original) The pistol of claim 23, wherein the locking member is a lock pin rotatably mounted to the selector switch and configured to receive a cooperatively configured key used to turn the locking member.

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25. (original) The pistol of claim 24, wherein the lock pin includes a cylindrical external sidewall to engage a mating concavity formed in the selector switch which stoppingly receives the lock pin sidewall to lock the switch in position.

26. (currently amended) A pistol with firing pin locking mechanism comprising:

a frame;

a housing attached to the frame, the housing defining a longitudinal axis and a chamber to hold a cartridge;

a firing pin disposed in the housing and longitudinally movable in a forward and rearward direction, at least a portion of the firing pin protruding outwards from the rear of the housing in one position;

a movable hammer pivotally mounted in the frame and positioned to physically contact the protruding firing pin to discharge the pistol;

a firing pin blocking member movable into and out of engagement with the firing pin, the firing pin blocked from forward movement when engaged by the blocking member;

a stopping member selectively movable along the longitudinal axis from an inactivated first axial position to a second activated axial position in which the stopping member engages and prevents the blocking member from being disengaged from the firing pin;

a rotary selector switch operably engaged with the firing pin and the stopping member, the stopping member pivotally mounted to the switch, the switch rotatable and movable between at least first and second rotational positions, the switch when moved from the first position to second position retracting the firing pin within the housing so that the hammer cannot contact the firing pin and discharge the pistol, the switch when moved from the first position to second position further simultaneously moving the stopping member into the second activated axial position to prevent the blocking member from being disengaged from the firing pin; and

a rotationally movable locking member that in at least one position engages and holds the switch in the second position so that the hammer cannot contact the firing pin and the stopping member remains engaged with the blocking member.

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27. (currently amended) The pistol of claim 26 46, wherein the locking member is a lock pin rotatably mounted to the selector switch and configured to receive a cooperatively configured key used to turn the locking member.

28. (canceled).

29. (canceled).

30. (canceled).

31. (new) The pistol of claim 17, wherein the blocking member is movable from a first position in which the blocking member engages the firing pin to a second position in which the blocking member does not engage the firing pin, the stopping member operable to engage and prevent blocking member movement from the first position to second position.

32. (new) The pistol of claim 17, wherein the stopping member is selectively movable by a user of the pistol into and out of engagement with the blocking member.

33. (new) The pistol of claim 31, wherein the blocking member is vertically movable and further comprises a top surface, and the stopping member further comprises a bottom surface, the bottom surface of the stopping member movable to engage the top surface of the blocking member when the blocking member is in the first position to prevent vertical movement of the blocking member.

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34. (new) The pistol of claim 31, further comprising a biasing member to bias the blocking member into the first position engaging the firing pin.

35. (new) The pistol of claim 17, wherein the blocking member further comprises a vertically-oriented shaft with a laterally-protruding flange, the flange movable into and out of engagement with a top surface of firing pin.

36. (new) The pistol of claim 35, wherein the flange further comprises a vertical surface that is engageable with a protrusion extending vertically upwardly from the top surface of the firing pin to prevent forward movement of firing pin.

37. (new) The pistol of claim 17, further comprising a rotatable locking member operably associated with the stopping member, the locking member rotationally movable from an unlocked position to a locked position in which the stopping member is locked into engagement with the blocking member.

38. (new) The pistol of claim 17, wherein the stopping member is a strut movable in a longitudinal direction between the first inactivated and second activated axial positions.

39. (new) The pistol of claim 23, wherein the stopping member is a strut movable in a longitudinal direction between the first inactivated and second activated axial positions.

40. (new) The pistol of claim 23, wherein the blocking member further comprises a vertically-oriented shaft with a laterally-protruding flange attached thereto that engages the firing pin, the strut obstructing vertical movement of the flange from disengagement with the firing pin.